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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 14659 091742Z

73
ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 TRSE-00

CIEP-01 FRB-03 OMB-01 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 /087 W
---------- 050534
R 091656Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3568
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY SEOULD
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USDEL MTN GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 14659

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, EEC, IT
SUBJECT: ITC FOOTWEAR CASE

REF: A. STATE 236200 (NOTAL); B. ROME 12687

1. WITHIN GOI QTE POLITICAL UNQTE LEVEL ENCOMPASSES ONLY MINISTERS AND UNDER SECRETARIES. CONSEQUENTLY, APPROPRIATE QTE POLITICAL UNQTE LEVEL OFFICIALS WITH WHOM SHOE EXPORTS AND CURRENT ITC IMPORT RELIEF PETITION SHOULD BE DISCUSSED ARE:
A. MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE CIRIACO DE MITA,
B. MINISTER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND HANDICRAFTS CARLO DONAT CATTIN, AND
C. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNDER SECRETARY ADOLFO BATTAGLIA.

2. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT SUBSTANCE OF DISCUSSIONS AT QTE POLITICAL UNQTE LEVEL IN MINISTRIES FOREIGN TRADE AND COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND HANDICRAFTS ARE LIKELY TO BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE; MISNISTRY COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND HANDICRAFTS

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PAGE 02 ROME 14659 091742Z

ESPECIALLY NOTED FOR LEAKS. GIVEN SIGNIFICANCE OF FOOTWEAR

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

INDUSTRY AND CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION, DE MITA AND DONAT CATTIN WILL WISH TO PLAY PERSONAL ROLE IN ANY HIGH-LEVEL DISCUSSIONS. FOR REASONS OF BUREAUCRATIC SENSITIVITIES, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO HOLD SEPARATE DISCUSSIONS WITH EACH OF THE THREE MINISTRIES.

3. COMMENT: (A) EMBASSY BELIEVES USG CAN EXPECT SWIFT AND SEVERE REACTION FROM GOI AND EC TO ANY USG MEASURE WHICH WOULD REDUCE LEVEL OF ITALIAN FOOTWEAR EXPORTS TO US; (B) IF USG HAS ALREADY IN FACT DECIDED ON COURSE OF ACTION RE FOOTWEAR IMPORTS, DISCUSSIONS WITH DIRECTORS GENERAL IN THE THREE MINISTRIES MIGHT BE MORE APPROPRIATE. VOLPE

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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
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06 JUL 2006

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